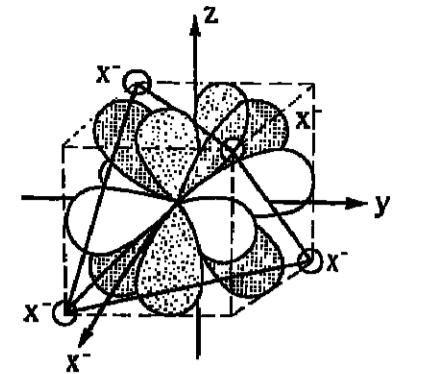


Mineral Physics News



The focal point for the mineral physics community.
Editor: Robert M. Hazen, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Geophysical Laboratory, 2801 Upton Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20008 (telephone: 202-966-0954).

What is Mineral Physics?

In the past the principal task of the mineralogist was simply to describe and classify physical, chemical, and structural properties of the remarkable variety of natural inorganic crystals. As this task was gradually accomplished for most species, however, mineralogists increasingly sought to identify physical and chemical principles that underlie mineral formation and behavior and procedures that might lead to predictions of stability and properties of phases deep within the earth. Mineral physics, which has evolved during the past 2 decades, is thus the study of mineralogical problems through the application of the principles of condensed-matter physics and chemistry.

Mineral physics bridges gaps among a number of disciplines. Mineral physics is closely linked with traditional earth-science fields, including solid-earth geophysics, geochemistry, crystallography, petrology, and crystal chemistry. Close ties also exist with topics in ceramics, materials science, physical chemistry, high-temperature and high-pressure research, and solid-state physics. The range of materials studied parallels the diversity of minerals themselves: elements, metal alloys, sulfides, halides, layer compounds, and zeolites, in addition to rock-forming oxides and silicates, have been the focus of much study. Experiments on minerals and their analog compounds have intensified as new industrial applications have been found in the manufacture of lasers, high-performance ceramics, molecular sieves, catalysts, and a wide variety of electronic components.

The methodology of modern mineralogy, both experimental and theoretical, reflects the new objectives of mineral physics. A major focus for many mineral physicists is the precise determination of the physical constants of minerals. Shock-wave and static compression experiments, coupled with measurements of thermal expansion and other properties, are used to calculate equations-of-state for minerals. Ultrasonic and Brillouin-scattering experiments yield the elastic modulus of crystals. Other researchers measure thermal conductivity, electrical conductivity, and magnetic properties of minerals.

In addition to well known neutron, X-ray and optical microscopic methods of the mineralogist, mineral physicists have adopted a wide range of spectroscopic procedures that reveal aspects of the structure and composition of minerals. Mössbauer, optical, and nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy probe the atomic environment and electronic state of ions in crystals. Raman and infrared spectroscopy reveal the molecular and lattice vibrations of mineral crystals. Microprobes that employ beams of electrons, X rays, and ions have led to ever more precise and spatially resolved compositional determinations.

Our knowledge of mineral structures has

been enhanced by the application of transmission electron microscopy, which has revealed nonperiodic aspects of crystals including defects and stacking disorder. Quantitative thermochemical techniques, in particular a variety of calorimetric procedures, provide critical data on the internal energies of minerals. These experimental studies are complemented by computational quantum chemistry, which has led to predictions from first principles in a few simple cases of mineral structure, stability, and physical properties.

Concurrent with the application of these and other new mineralogical techniques has been the remarkable development of high-pressure and high-temperature apparatus for the measurement of mineral structures and properties at geologically-relevant conditions. Progress in diamond-anvil pressure cell technology (Figure 1) and applications of laser heating, in particular, have become major efforts in the mineral physics community.

Underlying much of the mineral physics research is a growing awareness of the dependence of macroscopic properties—particularly those structural and transport properties that influence geological behavior—on atomic-level interactions. A major effort, therefore, is underway to document interrelationships among mineral structure, bonding, physical properties, and stability. Such an understanding of minerals will inevitably lead to a more complete understanding of the structure and dynamics of the earth's interior.

Information Report

The Mineral Physics Committee

Mineral physics is a diverse field that includes the study of crystal structure, thermochemical properties, physical properties, equations of state, and phase equilibria of minerals and mineral analog compounds. All of these mineral parameters are interrelated, yet they have been traditionally studied and reported by members of different AGU sections. Equations of state and elastic constants are usually included in Tectonophysics; magnetic properties of minerals are often treated in Geomagnetism and Paleomagnetism, and crystal structure and phase equilibria routinely appear in sessions of Volcanology, Geochemistry, and Petrology. Other subjects of interest to the mineral physics community may be reported in Oceanography, Planetary, or Seismology. As a result, many closely related topics have been presented in conflicting sessions at AGU meetings. The extent of this problem was highlighted during the 1983 Spring AGU meeting, when at one point aspects of silicate mineralogy and petrology were discussed concurrently in seven different sessions sponsored by five different sections.

The AGU Executive Council approved the establishment of the AGU Committee on Mineral Physics in March 1983 and charged the Committee to "provide service to the AGU and to the mineral physics scientific community." President Van Allen approved the appointment of Orson Anderson as chairman, and members Peter Bell, Raymond Jeanloz, Robert Liebermann, Murli Manghnani, Tom Shankland, Tom Ahrens, and Joseph Smith. The latter two members served ex officio as officers in the Tectonophysics and VGP sections, respectively.

The first meeting of the newly established committee was held at Baltimore, Md., May 31, 1983, and subsequent meetings occurred at San Francisco, Calif., on December 7, 1983, and in Cincinnati, Ohio, on May 15, 1984. One of the Committee's first activities, in addition to coordinating meeting schedules, was to compile a list of mineral physics workers in order to identify the range of interests in mineral properties. This list rapidly expanded to more than 300 scientists in 20 countries, and it soon became evident that, just as mineral physics extends beyond the traditional bounds of any one AGU section, so also does it extend well beyond the scope of the earth sciences. Workers in ceramics, solid-state chemistry, material science, and theoretical physics are regular contributors of significant results with direct applications to geophysical problems, yet many of these results are not known to AGU members. An expanded role for the Mineral Physics Committee was thus proposed. In addition to the original task of coordinating related AGU meeting sessions and other activities, the Mineral Physics Committee now seeks to foster links among all the diverse elements that comprise the mineral physics community. Committee activities thus include the organization of symposia, the development of a mineral physics monograph series, the active solicitation of mineral physics articles for AGU periodicals, and the distribution of a newsletter to the international list of researchers in mineral physics.

Under the chairmanship of Orson L. Anderson, Professor of Geophysics at the University of California, Los Angeles, several panels have been organized to undertake the activities of the Mineral Physics Committee. The AGU Sessions Program Panel (William Bassett, Charles Prentiss, David Kohlstedt, Charles Sammis, and Steven Kirby) is responsible for coordinating mineral physics abstracts in an effort to minimize conflicts between presentations of interest to the mineral physics community. As a first step it is recommended that contributors designate "Mineral Physics Session" on abstracts submitted to AGU meetings. This notation will ensure the inclusion of the paper in an appropriate session.

The Panel on Conferences and Publications (Alexandra Navrotsky, Donald Weidner, Tom Shankland, and Harve Wall) has examined the possibility of a new AGU monograph series on aspects of mineral physics. It is anticipated that the first titles in this series will be announced shortly. The panel is also considering possible topics for Chapman conferences.

The Membership and Publicity Panel (Robert Hazen, Earl Graham, Sue Kieffer, and Leon Thompson) is charged with the task of developing and maintaining a mailing list and communicating news of interest to the mineral physics community. A growing list, expanded to more than 500 scientists from 30 countries, has been prepared. Requests for sets of pre-gummed labels for appropriate mailings will be considered by the panel. News will be communicated both through periodic "Mineral Physics News" sections of *Eos*, and through mailings to the entire list of mineral physicists, sponsored by a grant from the AGU Council. In this way, AGU will provide the much-needed headquarters for the diverse international mineral physics community.

The Panel on Long-Range Future of Mineral Physics (Orson Anderson, Peter Bell, Murli Manghnani, and Joseph Smith) has reported on the prospect of augmented federal research funding in mineral physics. A National Research Council (NRC) Panel on the Solid Earth identified "physics and chemistry of earth materials" as one of "five research areas in which significant dividends can be expected as a result of incremental federal investment in FY 1983." Members of the panel will continue to seek opportunities to act in concert with NRC and agency officials to bolster the long-term future of mineral physics.

Other participants in the Mineral Physics Committee include the Nominations Panel (Roger Burns, Daniel Weil, and Hartmut Speizer), Foreign Secretary (Robert Liebermann), Committee Secretary (Michael Brown), and AGU Section Liaisons to Tectonophysics (Tom Ahrens), to VGP (Joseph Smith), and to Geomagnetism and Paleomagnetism (Subir Banerjee). In addition to the original members of the Committee on Mineral Physics, two new members, Roger Burns and Alexandra Navrotsky, have been added.



Orson Anderson, Chairman

News & Announcements

Call for Mineral Physics Papers

The editors of *Geophysical Research Letters* (GRL) are attempting to increase submissions in the fields of solid earth geophysics, and in particular in mineral physics. GRL, which is noted for its record of rapid publication, welcomes short, original articles of new results presented in a way that will make their significance apparent to the general geophysical community. Manuscripts should be sent to James C. G. Walker, Editor, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 2455 Hayward, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.

Mineral Physics News: Call for Contributions

Mineral Physics News will appear biannually in *Eos*. News notes, reviews, or other material of general interest to AGU and the mineral physics community are welcome. Please send information to the editor of *Mineral Physics News*. The next edition of *Mineral Physics News* will be published in April 1985. The deadline for copy is February 28, 1985.

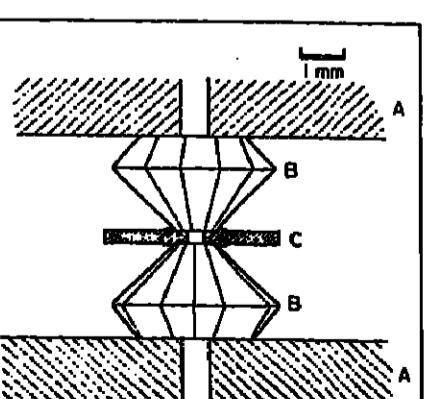


Fig. 1. The diamond anvil pressure cell is an important tool in mineral physics research. Static pressures up to 2.7 GPa have been attained in studies of mineral properties.

Meetings

Developments in High-Pressure and High-Temperature

The Mineral Physics Committee, Tectonophysics Section, and the VGP Section plan a special session for the Fall 1984 AGU meeting in memory of John C. Jamison. The session will be devoted to recent advances in the areas in which John worked and will include an invited talk on his contributions to geophysics. Additional invited papers by Murli Manghnani, William Bassett, Robert McQueen, and Buzz Graham, reviewing high-pressure crystallography, shock-wave work, and general high-pressure techniques, will complement the contributed papers. A special issue of the *Journal of Geophysical Research-Solid Earth* is being planned consisting of papers from this session. For further information contact Phil Halleck, 442 Diek Building, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802 (telephone: 814-863-1878).

High-Resolution Electron Microscopy

As part of the celebration of the centennial of Arizona State University there will be a symposium on high-resolution transmission and analytical electron microscopy from January 7–11, 1985. The goals are to review and evaluate developments in theory, techniques, and application that have been made to the present; and to evaluate new research directions that will arise from the next generation of instruments and techniques that are now becoming available. For further information contact Centennial Symposium, Center for Solid State Science, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ 85287.

Microscopic to Macroscopic

A short course will be held immediately prior to the Spring 1985 AGU meeting on relations among thermodynamics, lattice vibrations, coordination geometries, and bonding in minerals. Many aspects of mineral physics, including spectroscopy, crystal chemistry, thermochemistry, phase transitions, and bonding will be integrated in an effort to demonstrate the close correlations between atomic-scale and macroscopic properties of minerals. The Mineralogical Society of America short course is primarily pedagogic in nature, and it is planned to complement that emphasis with a series of research presentations at an all-day symposium of the same title at the 1985 Spring AGU meeting. For more information contact Susan W. Kieffer, U.S. Geological Survey, 2255 North Gemini Drive, Flagstaff, AZ 86001.

Quantum Theory and Experiment Applied to Solids

Planning is now underway on a 5-day symposium to review developments in the description of structure and bonding in perfect crystals. This conference, which is to be held May 1986 at the University of Maryland, College Park, is in some ways a sequel to the successful conference on Structure and Bonding in Crystals, which was held at Castle Hot Springs, Ariz., in 1980. Discussions will include experimental and theoretical aspects of small gas molecules relevant to understanding solids, defect solids and glasses, oxide surfaces, and solution and gel species important in natural waters. For information contact Jack Tosell, Department of Chemistry, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

Mineral Physics Symposia

There will be one or more mineral physics symposia at the next International Mineralogical Association (IMA) meeting, July 19–18, 1986. Anyone wishing to organize or participate in an IMA symposium should contact Larry Finger, Geophysical Laboratory, 2801 Upton St., N.W., Washington, DC 20008.

Do you know a colleague who would like to join AGU? Call 800-424-2488 and request membership applications.

Books

Proterozoic Geology

L. G. Medaris, Jr., C. W. Byers, D. M. Mickelson, and W. C. Shanks (eds.), *Mem. 161*, Geological Society of America, 915 pp., 1983, \$49.00.

Reviewed by P. K. Sims

This book and its companion, *Early Proterozoic Geology of the Great Lakes Region* (*Mem. 160*), edited by L. G. Medaris, Jr., are the products of an International Proterozoic symposium held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, May 18–21, 1981. This volume contains 25 papers that present the current thinking of experts on many aspects of Proterozoic evolution of the earth; it is divided into five broad categories: tectonics, magmatism and metamorphism, mineral resources, evolution of life and the atmosphere, and glaciation.

The Proterozoic is a distinctive interval in the geologic history of the earth, encompassing the transition from Archean conditions to those of the Phanerozoic. By Early Proterozoic time extensive stable continental plates existed, and deformation, deposition, and intrusion styles were comparable to those of today. Also, the amount of free oxygen in the atmosphere and hydrosphere continuously increased during the Proterozoic and eventually reached levels supportive of metazoan evolution.

The Early Proterozoic is characterized by thick epicratonic sedimentary sequences and oceanic or volcano-plutonic complexes, which are variably deformed. What tectonic processes were operative during this interval of time is a matter of controversy. The case for Wilson-cycle signatures analogous to modern plate tectonic regimes is presented by Brian Windley, who points to the well-exposed and well-documented Wopmay orogen in northwest Canada as an excellent example. In contrast, A. Kroner and A. J. Baer argue for ensialic orogens. The uniformitarian view

favors Wilson-cycle orogeny, but is it possible that Proterozoic mobile belts underlain by gneisses developed as a result of tectonic processes unique to the Proterozoic (and Archean)?

Oxidation of the atmosphere during the Proterozoic is recorded in the rocks by changes in the nature and type of sedimentation, mineral deposits, and life forms. The interaction of Proterozoic life, air, water, and sediments through time is ably reviewed by P. E. Cloud. Proterozoic chemical sediments are depicted in ¹⁸O with respect to Phanerozoic analogues, and E. C. Perry, Jr., and S. N. Ahmed propose that the sediments were precipitated from a Proterozoic ocean depleted in ¹⁸O. Others have proposed that the depletion resulted from a hot Proterozoic ocean. As an example of the change in the types of mineral deposits with time, the evolution of the atmosphere, and the nature of the record of the Proterozoic are reexamined.

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Reviewed by Lynton K. Caldwell

The author was quite clear about the purpose of this book and clearly achieved his intent. In his preface, the author states, "The purpose of this book is to acquaint the reader with a broad understanding of the topics relevant to the management of the nation's water and related land resources." The book is a product of the author's 20 years of work as a teacher, consultant, researcher, and student of watershed management and hydrology and has served as a text for a course entitled Soil and Water Conservation, which the author has taught at the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse, New York. But it was also written with the intent to be of use to informal students of water and land related resources on the national level as well.

The objectives of Black's course at Syracuse and its larger purpose define the scope of the book, which, again in the author's words, have been "(1) to acquaint students with principles of soil and water conservation; (2) to stimulate an appreciation for an integrated, comprehensive approach to land management; (3) to illustrate the influence of institutional, economic, and cultural forces on the practice of soil and water conservation; and (4) to provide information, methods, and techniques by which soil and water conservation measures are applied to land, as well as the basis for predicting and evaluating results."

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Cover. The photograph shows the tidal bore in one of the channels through the mud flat on the far side of the near side. It was taken at 1400 LT on September 4, 1983, from a lookout near milepost 95 on the Seward Highway (some 52 km up the arm from Anchorage). Low tide at Anchorage was 0.2 m at 1120 LT and high tide was 8.8 m at 1730 LT. The elevation of the lookout was estimated to be about 100 m and its distance from the channel about 1 km. A 35 mm camera with a 120 mm focal length lens was used. The bow-shaped leading bore wave had an undular character (Froude number, $F = 1 - 7$ (cf. D. F. Lynch, *Tidal bores, Sci. Am.*, 247(4), 134–148, 1982) over most of the channel width, except near the banks where it is consistently breaking ($F = 4.5 - 9.0$) and along the banks where it is jetting forward ($F > 9.0$). Neglecting some nearshore interference effects, there appear to be three distinct wave trains following the leading wave. The central train has the greatest wavelength, and there are steps decreases to the trains on both sides. The far and near wave trains can be seen to have different wavelengths because of counting waves from the leading one, the count for far-center-near are 6–7, 11–13, 15–19, 7–17–26, and 7–21–39. This shows, perhaps, that there is a central, steep-sided channel set into an otherwise gently sloping bottom topography.

Acknowledgment: The opportunity to take photographs of the tidal bore occurred when the writer was a visitor at the Institute of Marine Science at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

(Photo contributed by George Creswell, CSIRO Division of Oceanography, Hobart, Tasmania, 7001, Australia.)

This is not a book to which professionals in the field would turn to find the most recent information on the state of the art of land and water conservation or program evaluation.

Nevertheless, it is up-to-date as of the time of its publication. It is a book written especially for beginners, whether students in college or members of the general public, who would like to have some understanding of what the business of water management and conservation is all about.

Reviewed by Lynton K. Caldwell is with Advanced Studies in Science, Technology, and Public Policy, Indiana University, Bloomington.

Books (cont. on p. 749)

AGU Congressional Science Fellowship

The individual selected will spend a year (September to August) on the staff of a congressional committee or a House or Senate member, advising on a wide range of scientific issues as they pertain to public policy questions.

Prospective applicants should have a broad background in science and be articulate, literate, flexible, and able to work well with people from

